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AMERICAN SEIZED BY INDIAN POLICE

He Is Identified as Fugitive
In Gunrunning Case

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NEW DELHI, Jan. 23—The Indian Government announced tonight that it had arrested Daniel H. Walcott, a convicted American gunrunner who escaped capture by the Indian police twice in two and a half years.

A spokesman for the Home Ministry said Walcott was captured last night in a Bombay hotel, where he had registered under an assumed name. The spokesman said a French "accomplice," identified as Jean Claude Donze, had been arrested with him.

The two men were seized by agents of the Central Bureau of Investigation who had been checking on their identity since they moved into the hotel a few days ago and registered as British nationals.

Officials said the suspect contended that he was not Walcott, but that the police had "conclusively established" his identity.

Cartridges Found

Walcott has been one of the most elusive men ever sought by Indian authorities. In September, 1962, he was arrested at New Delhi's Ashoka Hotel, when the police found 760 16-mm. cartridges in his luggage.

Later, 10,000 more cartridges were seized from the plane on which he had flown here. Walcott was then identified as president of Transatlantic Airlines, which was flying freight between Stuttgart, Germany, and New Delhi.

In August, 1963, he was sentenced to six months in prison and fined the equivalent of \$420. The next month, however, the court reduced his sentence to the time he had already spent in prison, but his light plane was impounded against payment of the fine and other money owed to private parties here.

On Sept. 26, 1963, Walcott got into the plane and flew off to Karachi, the Pakistani capital, before anyone could stop him. Opposition Members of Parliament accused the Government of having neglected national security in allowing him to get away.